(b) if so, the detailed information in this regard; and

(c) the details of the central assistance given to Madhya Pradesh by the various Ministries during the one and a half year's regime of United Progressive Alliance Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) No, Sir. Allocation of Central assistance for the Annual Plans of the States including Madhya Pradesh is primarily governed by the relevant guidelines/criteria.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The amount of Central Plan assistance released by Central Government to Madhya Pradesh during 2004-05 was Rs. 2674.27 crores. The allocation of Central Plan assistance during 2005-06 for Madhya Pradesh is Rs. 1217.57 crores as grant and Rs. 2121.16 crores as loan. (Such loan is to be mobilized from the market, consequent to the recommendation of the Twelfth Finance Commission). Rs. 137.63 crores grant has been released to Madhya Pradesh by the Central Government so far in 2005-06.

Development of Science & Technology

453. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any initiatives for development and promotion of Science and Technology in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of funds granted for this purpose during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government has taken a number of initiatives for the development of science and technology in the country. During the 10th Five Year Plan the Government has focused on generating relevant innovative technologies; preserving,

protecting and adding value to indigenous resources; adopting an appropriate mix of traditional, conventional and modern technologies; developing and nurturing human resource; strengthening basic research in the areas of frontline science and; promoting S&T interventions in major socio-economic Ministries and States so as to make them real stake holders of S&T. The Government's initiatives included support to research programmes, S&T mission mode programmes, establishment of new research centres of excellence, international collaborative projects and establishment of collaborative institutions with other countries, strengthening of R&D infrastructure in academic institutions and research labs, assistance for technology development and commercialization, institution of prestigious fellowships like Swarnajayanti Fellowship for outstanding Young Scientists, Ramanna Fellowship for performing scientists, Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Fellowship for Young Scientists.

Major new initiatives include: National Biotechnology Development Strategy; Nano Science & Technology Initiative; National Mission on Bamboo Applications; Seismology Mission; Drug & Pharmaceuticals R&D; New Millennium Indian Technology Leadership Initiative; Tsunami Warning System etc.

(c) The Plan funds allocated for development and promotion of S&T during the last three years is given below:

2002-03	-	Rs. 4310 Cr.
2003-04	-	Rs. 4595 Cr.
2004-05	-	Rs. 5704 Cr.

Draft National Bio-tech Strategy

454. SHRI MURLI DEORA: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Draft National Bio-tech Strategy propose to achieve the full potential of this sun rise sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the policy would attract both domestic and foreign investment in Bio-tech sector and if so, the annual turnover to be achieved by it; and